

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

To:
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PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 71.1)

25 OCT 2005

Applicant's or agent's file reference

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

138/12PCT

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| International application No. | International filing date (day/month/year) | Priority date (day/month/year) |
| PCT/US04/18082 | 08 June 2004 (08.06.2004) | 09 June 2003 (09.06.2003) |

Applicant

SMYTH, LARRY C

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary report on patentability and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.
4. **REMINDER**

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices)(Article 39(1))(see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*.

The applicant's attention is drawn to Article 33(5), which provides that the criteria of novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability described in Article 33(2) to (4) merely serve the purposes of international preliminary examination and that "any Contracting State may apply additional or different criteria for the purposes of deciding whether, in that State, the claimed invention is patentable or not" (see also Article 27(5)). Such additional criteria may relate, for example, to exemptions from patentability, requirements for enabling disclosure, clarity and support for the claims.

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| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/ US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: IPEA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230 | Authorized officer David P. Bryan Telephone No. 571-272-4690 |
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Form PCT/IPEA/416 (January 2004)

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PCT
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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|--|--|---|-----------------------|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference 138/12PCT | FOR FURTHER ACTION | | See Form PCT/IPEA/416 |
| International application No. PCT/US04/18082 | International filing date (day/month/year) 08 June 2004 (08.06.2004) | Priority date (day/month/year) 09 June 2003 (09.06.2003) | |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC(7): B23P 17/00 and US Cl.: 29/894.324 | | | |
| Applicant SMYTH, LARRY C | | | |
| <p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>3</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of ___ sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) ___ , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability, citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p> | | | |
| Date of submission of the demand 10 January 2005 (10.01.2005) | Date of completion of this report 23 September 2005 (23.09.2005) | | |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/ US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: IPEA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230 | <p>Authorized officer: David P. Bryan</p> <p>Telephone No. 971-272-4690</p> | | |

Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet)(April 2005)

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

PCT/US04/18082

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on:

the international application in the language in which it was filed.
 a translation of the international application into English, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
 international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4(a))
 international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2(a) and/or 55.3(a))

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):

the international application as originally filed/furnished

the description:

 pages 1-16 as originally filed/furnished
 pages* NONE received by this Authority on _____
 pages* NONE received by this Authority on _____

the claims:

 pages 17-20 as originally filed/furnished
 pages* NONE as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 pages* NONE received by this Authority on _____
 pages* NONE received by this Authority on _____

the drawings:

 pages 1-7 as originally filed/furnished
 pages* NONE received by this Authority on _____
 pages* NONE received by this Authority on _____

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages _____
 the claims, Nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (specify): _____
 any table(s) related to the sequence listing (specify): _____

4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages _____
 the claims, Nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (specify): _____
 any table(s) related to the sequence listing (specify): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

Form PCT/IPEA/409 (Box No. I) (April 2005)

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/US04/18082

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)

Claims 1-23 YESClaims NONE NO

Inventive Step (IS)

Claims 1-23 YESClaims NONE NO

Industrial Applicability (IA)

Claims 1-23 YESClaims NONE NO

2. Citations and Explanations (Rule 70.7)

Claims 1-23 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(3), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest the steps of marking a formed wheel with an initial ID mark and machining away the ID mark during final wheel shaping.

Claims 1-23 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(4), and thus exhibit industrial applicability because the subject matter claimed can be made or used in industry.